

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 OIC-02 IO-13 DHA-02 ORM-02
AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
EUR-12 TRSE-00 /096 W
-----151916Z 080418 /40

P 151800Z JUN 77
FM USDEL GRENADA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0014

C O N F I D E N T I A L GRENADA 00014

DEPT PLEASE PASS ALL AMREP

FROM USDEL OASGA

USOAS DEL 3

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PROG, OAS, HR
SUBJ: OPENING OF VII OASGA - JUNE 14, 1977

1. HUMAN RIGHTS COMPLETELY DOMINATED FIRST DAY OF OASGA. LINES WERE DRAWN EARLY FOR DEBATE THAT WAS FREQUENTLY SHARP AND OCCASIONALLY BITTER. PRIME MINISTER GAIRY OPENED SESSION WITH A LONG, RAMBLING, SPEECH THAT TOUCHED ON THEOLOGY, SEX DISCRIMINATION, HUMAN RIGHTS AND UFO'S. SECGEN ORFILA THEN GAVE ROUTINE SPEECH, WITH ONE GLANCING REFERENCE TO MINI-STATES, WHICH HE CLEARLY WELCOMED. VENEZUELAN FONMIN ESCOVAR RESPONDED ON BEHALF OF ALL DELEGATIONS BUT USED OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE STRONG PLEA FOR DEFENSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND STRENGTHENING INTER-AMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION.

2. WITH GAIRY IN CHAIR, ASSEMBLY TURNED NEXT TO ADOPTING AGENDA. FONMIN FACIO (COSTA RICA) ATTEMPTED TO ADD
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NEW ITEM CONCERNING RATIFICATION PROCESS FOR PACT OF SAN JOSE (INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION ON HUMAN RIGHTS) THAT WOULD ESTABLISH SPECIAL CONFERENCE TO REDUCE FROM ELEVEN TO SEVEN NUMBER OF RATIFICATIONS NEEDED TO BRING CONVENTION INTO FORCE. BRAZILIAN FONMIN SILVERIA TOOK SHARP ISSUE WITH IDEA OF READDRESSING PACT SIGNED IN 1969 AND STILL RATIFIED BY ONLY TWO STATES.

HE SAID BRAZIL WOULD NOT FAVOR SUCH A CONFERENCE.
GAIRY ASKED IF ANYONE SECONDED COSTA RICA'S
ITEM FOR ADDITION TO AGENDA BUT GAVELLED SUBJECT
CLOSED BEFORE ANYONE COULD SPEAK. FACIO PROMISED TO
RAISE IT AGAIN COMMITTEE I UNDER CHILE'S AGENDA
ITEM 22, QUOTE STRENGTHENING THE IAHRC UNQUOTE.

3. SECRETARY VANCE ARRIVED IN TIME FOR AFTERNOON
OPENING OF INFORMAL DIALOGUES. FIRST SPEAKER RECOGNIZED
WAS NEW ARGENTINE FONMIN MONTES, WHO SAID WHOLE AGENDA
SHOULD BE DEALT WITH AS A UNIT, DESCRIBED TERRORISM
AS MOST SERIOUS ISSUE FACING THE CONFERENCE AND CALLED
FOR ADDRESSING HUMAN RIGHTS IN NATIONAL CONTEXT OF
WIDESPREAD TERRORIST ASSAULT ON RIGHTS OF CITIZENS TO
KVIE. GAIKY NEXT RECOGNIZED CHILEAN FONMIN CARVAJAL
WHO MOUNTED BITTER ATTACK ON USG, AND CARTER ADMINISTRATION
BY NAME, FOR ITS ESPOUSAL OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN DIVISIVE
DISCRIMINATORY FASHION. HE SAID CHILE SHARED
PRINCIPLES US ATTEMPTING TO PROMOTE BUT FACED ASSAULT BY
INTERNATIONAL MARXIST CONSPIRACY BENT ON DESTROYING
DIGNITY OF INDIVIDUAL.

4. CARVAJAL APPLAUDED US EFFORTS TO LOOK INTO HUMAN
RIGHTS PROBLEMS IN OTHER COUNTRIES BY LOOKING AT ITSELF
FIRST. HE QUOTED SECRETARY VANCE'S ATHENS, GEORGIA
SPEECH TO EFFECT US REALIZED IT WAS NOT WITHOUT BLEMISH.
EVEN US FINDS THESE PRINCIPLES DIFFICULT TO IMPLEMENT
IN ATMOSPHERE OF RACIAL UNREST, CRIMINAL DISORDER AND
RANDOM INSISTENCE. QUOTING BEN BRADLEE OF WASHINGTON
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POST, HE SAID US PRESS INFLUENCES PUBLIC OPINION AGAINST
ALLIES UNDER ASSAULT BECAUSE IT PUBLISHES "WHAT PEOPLE
TELL US....WE PUBLISH LIES." HE ADDED THAT US PRESS SPREADS
LIES ABOUT LATIN AMERICA, WITH NO RIGHT OF REPLY PERMITTED,
AND THAT IS THE CAUSE OF DIVISION IN THE HEMISPHERE.
CARVAJAL QUOTED EXTENSIVELY FROM IADB REPORTS, CITING
US NAVAL OFFICER WHO WAS THEN CHAIRMAN, TERRORISM
IS FOMENTED BY INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST CONSPIRACY
WITH HELP OF "USEFUL IDIOTS" IN LA COUNTRIES
AND FINANCING FROM FOREIGN SOURCES AT HIGH LEVELS.

5. TERRORISM IS MOST DANGEROUS THREAT TO HUMAN RIGHTS
IN HEMISPHERE, CARVAJAL SAID, WITH PROPAGANDA AND WEAPONS
POURING IN FROM SOVIET UNION BUT STRUGGLE AGAINST IT
IS IMPEDED BY US CUT OFF OF ASSISTANCE UNDER TERMS
OF RIO TREATY. HE CONCLUDED SARCASTICALLY BY
QUOTING MACHIAVELLI'S WARNING AGAINST PRINCES WHO
BETRAY FRIENDS TO WIN OVER ENEMIES.

6. SECRETARY VANCE WAS NEXT RECOGNIZED. HE DID NOT RESPOND DIRECTLY TO CONCERTED ATTACK. SECRETARY SAID HE WAS GRATIFIED COLLEAGUES HAD RECOGNIZED SERIOUSNESS OF PROBLEM AND NEED TO TAKE INDIVIDUAL AND COLLECTIVE MEASURES TO ADVANCE HUMAN RIGHTS. HE MADE PREPARED STATEMENT BUT OMITTED PARAGRAPH ON MINI-STATES, IN DEFERENCE TO STRONG FEELINGS VOICED PRIVATELY BY JAMAICA, BARBADOS, TRINIDAD AND SURINAM.

7. URUGUAY FOLLOWED WITH ATTACK ON IAHR FOR ALLOWING ITSELF TO BE "POLITICIZED" AND FOLLOWED WITH TEDIOUS RECOUNTING OF NEGOTIATIONS OVER COMMISSION'S REQUEST TO VISIT URUGUAY.

8. JAMAICAN AMBASSADOR TO OAS RATTRAY STATED STRONG CASE FOR "OPENING DOORS" TO IAHR TO END FRIVOLOUS OR UNJUST CHARGES AND BRING FACTS OF SITUATION OUT IN OPEN. CONFIDENTIAL

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HE SPOKE OF MANY KINDS OF RIGHTS, BEYOND INTEGRITY OF INDIVIDUAL AND FREEDOM FROM TORTURE, CITING ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RIGHTS IN PARTICULAR. HE SPOKE SHARPLY OF "RIGHT OF SMALL NATIONS TO INDEPENDENCE", AND REFERRED DIRECTLY TO CASE OF BELIZE AND CIRITICIZED GUATEMALA'S INTRANSIGENCE.

9. GUATEMALA'S FONMIN MOLINA RESPONDED WITH IMPASSIONED STATEMENT DEFENDING HIS COUNTRY'S CLAIMS TO BELIZE. REJECTING ATTEMPTS OF INTERNATIONAL BODIES TO INTERVENE, HE SPECIFICALLY DENOUNCED EFFORTS OF BRITISH COMMONWEALTH TO PRESS FOR OUTCOME FAVORABLE TO THE UK. MOLINA SAID BILATERAL TALKS WITH UK WOULD CONTINUE BUT ISSUE HAD NO PLACE IN OAS. BELIZE WAS NOT A CONONY BUT OCCUPIED TERRITORY BELONGING TO GUATEMALA.

W10. NICARAGUA AND HONDURAS PROPOSED INCLUDING GUATEMALA'S STATEMENT IN COMMUNIQUE TO BE ISSUED AT CONCLUSION OF INFORMAL DIAGLOGUES. JAMAICAN INSISTED HIS WORDS BE INCLUDED AS WELL. SESSION ENDED AT THIS POINT.

11. NEXT SESSION OF INFORMAL DIALOGUES SCHEDULED FOR TEN A.M. JUNE 15.
MCGEE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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